

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 EA-06 /034 W

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R 231611Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5969

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 2623

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EPAP, NL

SUBJ: IMPORT REQUIREMENTS OUTLOOK

REF: STATE 117205

1. ESTIMATED NETHERLANDS IMPORTS 1974/75: SOYBEANS, 1,350,000 M.T.; AND SOYBEAN MEAL, 550,000 M.T. ESTIMATED IMPORTS FROM U.S.: SOYBEANS, 1,100,000 M.T.; SOYBEAN MEAL, 200,000 M.T.
2. PROJECT 1975/76 NETHERLANDS IMPORTS ON BASIS FOLLOWING PRICE ASSUMPTIONS:

A. SAME PRICE AS IN 1974/75: SOYBEANS, 1,400,000 M.T. (U.S.: 1,100,000 M.T.); SOYBEAN MEAL, 600,000 M.T. (U.S. 250,000 M.T.).

B. 15 PERCENT LOWER PRICE: SOYBEANS, 1,500,000 M.T. (U.S.: 1,200,000 M.T.); SOYBEAN MEAL, 625,000 M.T. (U.S.: 250,000 M.T.).

C. 30 PERCENT LOWER PRICE: SOYBEANS, 1,650,000 M.T. (U.S.: 1,400,000 M.T.); SOYBEAN MEAL, 600,000 M.T. (U.S.: 250,000 M.T.).

3. COMMENTS ON ESTIMATES: PROJECTIONS

A. ESTIMATED TOTAL NETHERLANDS IMPORTS OF SOYBEANS AND MEAL IN 1974/75 ARE DOWN 16 PERCENT AND 20 PERCENT, RESPECTIVELY, AS COMPARED WITH 1973/74. MAIN REASON IS 1974/75 SEASON STARTED WITH HIGH OIL AND MEAL CARRY-OVERS AND HIGH PRICES. SINCE THEN, PRICES HAVE DROPPED

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SUBSTANTIALLY, SCARING OFF BUYERS AND LEAVING POOR CRUSHING MARGINS.

B. ASSUMING SAME AVERAGE PRICE IN 1975/76 AS IN 1974/75, WITH REASONABLE SEASONAL PRICE FLUCTUATIONS, BEEN PRICES MAY BE HIGH RELATIVE TO OTHER OILSEEDS, MEALS, AND FEED GRAINS. CONSEQUENTLY, DUTCH CRUSHERS WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE AT LESS THAN CAPACITY.

C. A 15 PERCENT CUT IN 1975/76 AVERAGE PRICES WILL NOT BRING ABOUT A SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE IN VOLUME OF BEAN AND MEAL MOVEMENT.

D. ONLY AN AVERAGE PRICE REDUCTION OF 30 PERCENT IN 1975/76 WILL MAKE SOYBEANS AND MEAL ATTRACTIVE IN RELATION TO COMPETING FEED GRAINS.
S.
PROJECTS 1975/76 LIVESTOCK NUMBERS ARE MODERATELY LOWER FOR WESTERN EUROPE. THIS WILL PUT A DEFINITE CEILING ON SOYMEAL CONSUMPTION.
DECON UPON RECEIPT.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 MAY 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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